

**Tomorrow:** High: 29 F Low: 18 F



Saturday: High: 38 F Low: 22 F

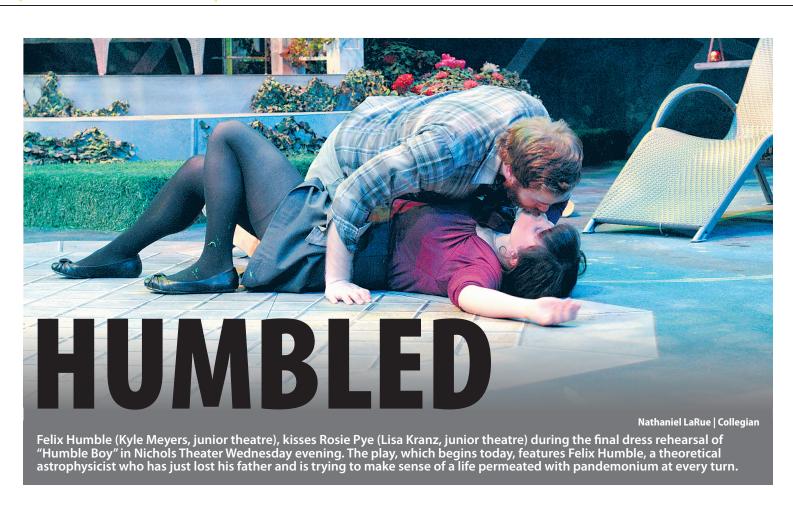
**Back on track** 

Checkout how the men's basketball team fared against Nebraska.

Job tips Sarah Gudde gives you ten things not to do at your next interview.



For the web Check out reviews and sports video from the Octagon at www.kstatecollegian.com



# Graduate students present wide variety of research

#### **K-State hosts Capitol Graduate Research** Summit

**Austin Enns** coverage editor

While many K-State students were still recovering from the snowstorm, more than 20 graduate students gathered Wednesday on the second floor of the K-State Student Union to present research at the poster session of the Capitol Graduate Research

Megan Miller, graduate student in psychology and president of the Graduate Student Council, said judges would pick 10 of the best presentations and send them to a conference in Topeka.

The research the graduate students are presenting is from different areas, but they have some implications on state issues like agriculture, economics, and the military," Miller said.

Each student presented his or her research on a poster and had three minutes to talk with



Jennifer Heeke | Collegian

George Paul, graduate student in agronomy, shows Josephine Boac, research associate in biological engineering, the work he has done for his graduate research project.

The projects ranged from communication in power grid networks and the influence in grazing treatments on stream substrate and channel geometry to food safety training for Asian restaurants and water usage by casual dining restaurants in Kansas.

VanSchenkhof, Matthew graduate student in hotel man-

agement and dietetics, is working on a project that will survey 250 restaurants in Kansas on the volume of water they use so a baseline number can be

noted in future studies. "I'm interested in sustainability, but it's an area that hasn't been looked at," Van-Schenkhof said. "Water is all around us, but nobody takes a

step back to see how much we

VanSchenkhof said his project will survey over 10 percent of the casual dining restaurants in Kansas, according to the census data. He said nobody has done a study like this before in Kansas, and the baseline will help future researchers determine whether behavioral or technological advances can decrease the water usage.

Jennifer Hanson, graduate student in human nutrition, is doing a study on the dietary intakes of a naturally occurring fatty acid in fish among soldiers during combat.

"It took a lot of time; there were a lot of collaborators in the military," Hanson said. "Getting approved through the proper military channels was

time consuming."

Hanson said a surgeon with the soldiers she surveyed has kept her updated on the soldiers' menus. The point of the project is to see whether that fatty acid can help protect soldiers in combat from mood changes. Hanson said she will have spent more than a year and a half on the project once it concludes in April.

Miller said weather has had a large impact in the planning for the graduate event.

"The initial organizing isn't too bad, but with the weather, we've had to set up some backup plans depending on whether campus is open," Miller said. "Last year there was a power outage and we had to reschedule, so we are somewhat experienced with dealing with stuff like this."

# **Project** extends beyond purpose

#### Political program helps get past partisanship

Ashley Dunkak

senior staff writer

Objectivity is a bit of a farce, according to longtime journalist Dante Chinni.

Everyone has biases, Chinni said, because different experiences and environments have shaped the way each individual thinks, feels and approaches a variety of matters. Journalists are not exempt from this, and Chinni said that is not a prob-

"The journalism," he said, emphasizing the difference beuct, "isn't supposed to have bias." tween the person and the prod-

That is why Chinni, along with University of Maryland professor James Gimpel, spearheaded the development of Patchwork Nation, a project designed to allow people to see a more detailed breakdown, not based on Democratic or Republican tendencies, of what is happening across the United

Chinni and Gimpel originally intended the project as a more revealing method of covering the 2008 election.

"I thought there had to be a better way to cover it, beyond

the red and blue," Chinni said. The two men co-authored a book on their endeavor, "Our Patchwork Nation: The Surprising Truth About the 'Real' America." A map located on their website, patchworknation. org, shows the United States divided into counties that are color-coded according to 12 categories, based on race, religion, employment and income. Riley County, for example, is purple - not because of K-State, but because it falls under the cat-

egory of Military Bastion. After the conclusion of one of the most prominent and pivotal presidential elections in the nation's history, Chinni and Gimpel decided their project could be useful for more than just following voting tenden-

"We quickly realized we had something good for a lot more than studying politics," Chinni

Data for bankruptcies, highest-performing schools, federal spending per capita, doctors per 100,000 people, and much more is shown based on county or district type. Information on what percentage of people in each county voted for which candidate in the 2008 election is available, but that is a very small part of the picture illustrated by the statistics provided by the website.

Former Kansas Governor John Carlin, visiting professor in the Department of Political Science, said he likes the idea of breaking down the U.S. into smaller portions to see more accurately what is going on in different areas.

"One of the things I emphasize in my classes that I teach is ... that all politics is local," Carlin said. "And the more I reflect on my own experiences, the more I look at what's going on, the more I believe how important understanding that is. And so this project fits right into that in terms of getting down to smaller areas to do research work, commentary, whatever."

The website — which also includes articles on current events as well as contributions from bloggers around the country - can be used to look up demographic data about one's county, or people can view statistics over the whole country

Chinni | pg.5

# SGA candidates focus on safety, student involvement

#### University election season begins with again

news editor

Two K-State students have officially filed to run for student body president and vice president, thus marking the beginning of this semester's student government election

Nate Spriggs, junior in agricultural economics, and Kate Bormann, senior in agricultural com-

munication and journalism, registered on Wednesday to join the race for next year's student body president and vice president, respectively.

Spriggs and Bormann, running under the slogan "Your Voice, Your Campus," will run a three-part platform.

"The first is safety," said Eli Schooley, Spriggs and Bormann's campaign manager and sophomore in microbi-"Nate and Kate plan to install campus safety information centers that have

two-way communication with police. They plan on putting those inside buildings rather than having only the current outdoor stations.

The duo would also like to put students on the university's Technology Classroom Planning Committee. The committee is responsible for updating technology in university classrooms and currently functions without student representation. Spriggs and Bormann said they plan to put a student on the committee and implement online

surveys so that

prioritize which

classrooms they

feel most need

technology up-

plan to make it

easier and less

The duo also

students

dates.

"We feel like our platform has a lot of plans that could benefit K-State as a whole,"

**Kate Bormann SGA Vice Presidential** 

expensive Candidate K-State students

to attend events organized by the McCain Performance Series and the Union Programming Council.

"Students would buy into the program at the beginning of the year and members of the program would get advanced tickets at discounted prices," Schooley said. "Our program is similar to ICAT



Nate Spriggs, junior in agricultural economics, and Kate Bormann, senior in agricultural communication, intend to run for student body president and vice president for the 2011-2012 year.

for basketball or football games in that we want to provide students with the opportunity to pursue their interest ahead of time. The idea behind the program is that with the membership money in hand, it would allow more options for entertainment as a whole, and it would make it cheaper for students."

Bormann said the duo decided to run for office as a way of giving back to the univer-

"We feel like our platform has a lot of plans that could benefit K-State as a whole," Bormann said. "We are really excited to put those plans into action and see them become a

Spriggs agreed, adding that he considers service in student government an opportunity to represent the voices of the student body.

"It's our duty to represent the student voice. I think it's important in a collegiate setting to have a respect for all

Nate & Kate | pg. 5

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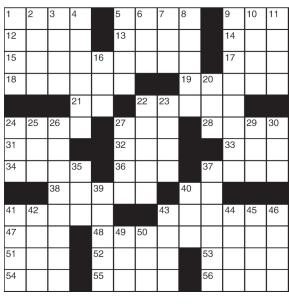
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39 "Great!" **11** Con 56 Untouch- 16 Expert 40 Melody 20 Part of **41** Buy UNLV Solution time: 25 mins. 50 Skillet Yesterday's answer



# Logan's Run | By Erin Logan







# SGA says goodbye to Muir

**Danny Davis** senior staff writer

Prior to the Student Senate meeting tonight, Student Governing Association is holding a function for students interested in running for senate. Free pizza and Call Hall ice cream will be provided and students will have a chance to learn campaign tips from current senators, said Natalie Rauth, SGA Campus Outreach committee chair.

Tonight's meeting marks the last senate meeting for faculty representative Bill Muir. Muir is retiring from the university, said Kyle Reynolds, speaker of student senate.

Muir has often helped senators in meetings by offering advice on Robert's Rules of Orders and senate procedures. Last week, he led the senate in singing "Home on the Range" commemorate the 150th anniversary of Kansas'

statehood, concluding the

meeting.

On the agenda for the meeting is the review of a resolution in support of the Take Charge Challenge, Reynolds said. The challenge is a statewide competition that aims to increase the efficiency of

With this resolution, the senate will be supporting Manhattan's participation in the competition, he said.

Another item on the agenda will be the approval of a new allocations chair, Reynolds said. Senators applied Monday for the position, which was left vacant after senator Michael Champlin resigned.

The allocations chair the Allocations heads This com-Committee. mittee provides funds to groups and organizations that request funding from SGA. After the committee makes a recommendation, the senate votes on whether or not to approve

the funding.
The pre-senate function begins at 6 p.m. and is located in the Union Cottonwood Room at the K-State Student Union. Senate begins meeting at 7 p.m. in the Big 12 Room at the Union. Next week, SGA is hold-

ing two events for potential candidates. On Monday, February 7, at 7 p.m. in the Union Little Theatre, students who are considering running for senator can listen to Danny Unruh, student body president, and Reynolds talk about the SGA campaign process.

They will be answering questions about SGA in general and campaigning for senate.

Unruh and Reynolds will also be speaking in the Derby Dining Center, room 134, on Tuesday, February 8, at 6 p.m. Cookies and refresh-

ments will be served at both events.

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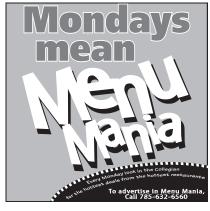
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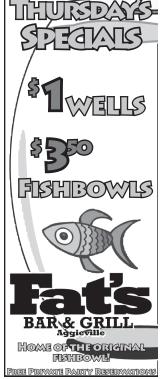
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## Call for Nominations

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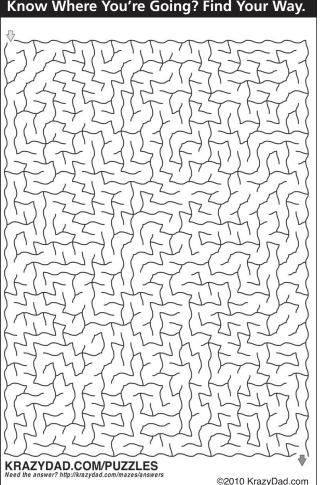
Deans must provide their nominations to the Office of the Provost by March 1, 2011.

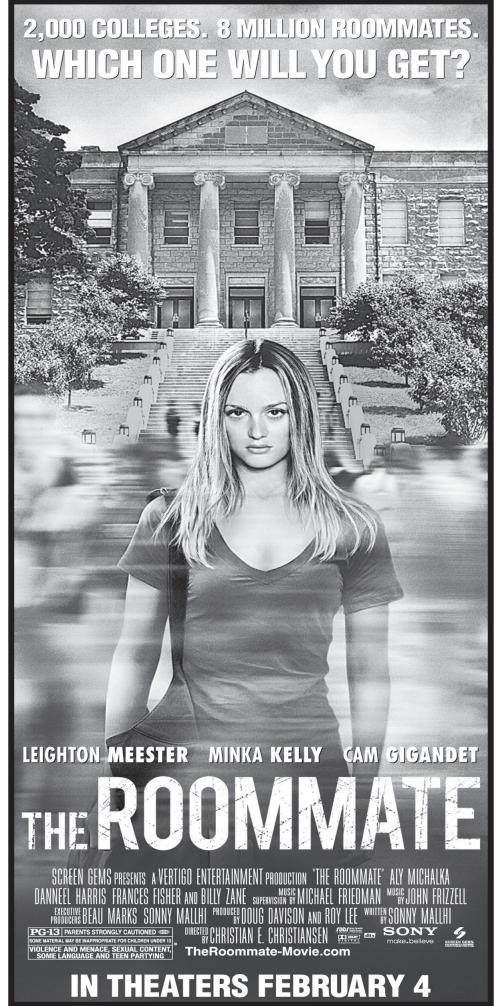
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# **BOUNCE BACK**

# Wildcats turn defense into offense in big win

**Ashley Dunkak** senior staff writer

After the debacle that was the KU-K-State game in Lawrence, senior guard Jacob Pullen said the Wildcats needed to get back into the habit of turning defense into offense. Last night, that's exactly what they did.

In the first half, the K-State offense flowed much more easily than it had in previous games. Players screened, and by doing this multiple times each possessions, guys eventually came open. Senior forward Curtis Kelly in particular set several picks high in the paint, allowing teammates to get a step ahead of their defenders and move into position to receive a pass.

Frequent passing made for an offense that was much easier to watch than the versions we've seen in recent games. At halftime, the Wildcats had 8 assists to go along with 12 made baskets. Assists on two-thirds of a team's shots is a good sign.

The frontcourt also looked much improved in the first half. Forwards went stronger to the basket and crashed the boards well enough to outrebound the Huskers 16-12. Also, they limited Nebraska to only two offensive rebounds, while grabbing six of their own. Those boards helped the Wildcats to seven second-chance points and seven points on the fast break.

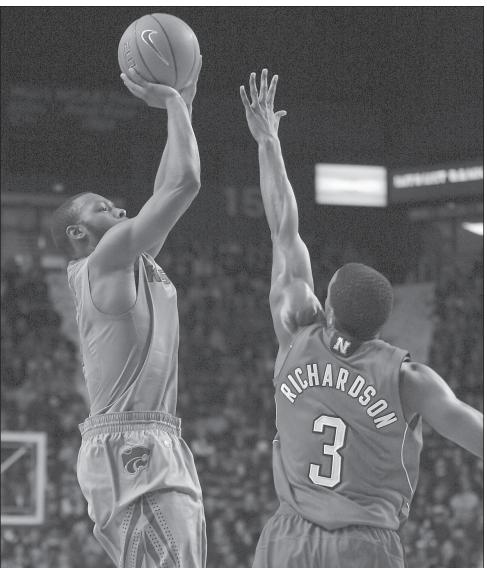
While the first half in particular was a pretty low-scoring affair, it wasn't really as ugly as the 31-17 score would indicate. The Wildcats had a fairly even distribution of scoring, as Kelly led all scorers with eight points.

All in all, the Wildcats looked more confident in this half. They looked fairly serious before tipoff, and at halftime looked a bit more relaxed.

In the second half, K-State scored only two more points than Nebraska did. The Wildcats' field goal percentage dropped from 44.4 to 37.5, while the Huskers' jumped from 36.8 to 50 percent. What kept the Wildcats firmly in control was their free throw shooting. K-State made 18 of 21 attempts from the line in the second half, turning out a very pleasing 85.7 percent.

The Wildcats ended up turning the ball over 13 times, but they had forced that many giveaways from Nebraska by the end of the first half. The Huskers finished with 22 turnovers, which deeply frustrated head coach Doc Sadler.

In addition to forcing 22 turnovers, the Wildcats also came away with seven steals. Head coach Frank Martin attributed the success to increased attention to the detail and the players taking heed of the scouting reports. Those factors also prompted the Wild-



photos by Jonathan Knight | Collegian

K-State senior guard Jacob Pullen (0) shoots over Nebraska junior guard Brandon Richardson (3)

cats to draw fouls, as they drew 22 fouls from the Huskers while committing only 15.

One area in which the Wildcats didn't look so hot was 3-point shooting. The Wildcats had six different players make one from beyond the arc, but no player made more than one. Again, though, the scoring was well-distributed, and the players helped each other out by stepping up for shots when opportunities came.

The player who most pressed me this game was sophomore forward Jordan Henriquez-Roberts. According to the stat sheet he only spent 15 minutes on the floor, but he made an impact while he was there, grabbing eight rebounds and scoring four points. Martin said himself that he is very hard on Jordan, and everyone could tell, as he went over to the player to scream at him after yanking him from the game for a costly mistake - getting a technical foul for hanging on

Still, Jordan comes to play whenever he is out there. He takes the verbal criticism and doesn't let it get to him. He is steadily improving. He is a

Check out the

great presence in the post, with a wingspan that is sure to see

many blocks in the future. This game was exactly what K-State needed after that drubbing by KU. Being back in Bramlage Coliseum helped, but more than that, the Wildcats got a feel for how they play

Below: K-State freshman guard **Shane Southwell** (1) dribbles up court during the second half against Nebraska in Bramlage Coliseum, February 2, 2011. Kansas State defeated the Huskers 69-53.



# Too early in season to cast blame on Martin



What has changed in the K-State basketball program from 2009-10 to 2010-11?

While many articles published in the past couple weeks have been very critical of K-State head coach Frank Martin, I find it a bit unnerving to criticize a coach without having seen him in practices and with his players. As Martin has pointed out, he's on national TV for the most intense two-hour stretch of his job every week.

On the college basketball home page of ESPN's website, a headline hails the three individuals pictured above it as Coach of the Year candidates. Martin is not among them. Last season, though, he was chosen Big 12 Conference Coach of the Year, and many other awards had him listed as a candidate.

Just like everyone else, I've seen Martin livid as all get-out on the sideline, screaming words that make my ears hurt and feeling very fortunate I'm not on the receiving end.

But as a member of the media, I've heard so many of his players tell me they came to K-State because of Martin, and because he was honest with them and told them how hard it was going to be. These kids aren't coming in blind. They've seen games on TV. They know what to expect.

Really, I've seen that honesty extended to the coach's conversations with the media. Sure, there are certain topics he won't discuss — mainly pertaining to players' personal issues — but I don't know that I've ever heard him dodge a question. He doesn't address inquiries in such a roundabout way that he gives an answer without answering the question, and his

answers aren't so vague as to say nothing.
So there you go, full disclosure: I think Martin is a pretty decent guy. We're back to the initial question, then. What's changed from last season to this season?

First of all, the Wildcat frontcourt is not as physically imposing as it was. Even before the departures of Freddy Asprilla and Wally Judge, K-State generally had pretty lean big men. If you look at last year, we had Luis Colon and Dominique Sutton — shutdown defenders in the paint. Not certainly, but possibly, they could have battled with KU's Marcus and Markieff Morris a little more competently.

Secondly, we had Denis Clemente, along with the Jacob Pullen of last season. Pullen has still been doing awfully well, but with the responsibility to run the offense as well as score the ball to the tune of 20 points per game, he is handling the ball much of the time, and the combination of those elements adds up to a

lot of responsibility.

Thirdly — and this is more a change for the fans than a change for the team itself, I think — the Wildcats' struggles have been much more numerically illustrated this season. We started out at No. 3 in the nation. Where do you have to go but down? I would say it's sketchy to assert anyone except maybe perennial contenders Duke and KU could maintain that kind of stature through the duration of a season.

Fourth, two kids have left in the last several weeks. I'm not going to lie, that doesn't reflect well on a program or coach. Remember, though: There is always more to the story than we ever find out. Being unaware of what is really going on in the lives of these individuals, I think it's prudent to not be too condemning.

So despite all the hubbub about whether Martin is driving away scholarship players with his volatile coaching style, I think we should wait and see what happens in these last eight games before drawing any conclusions.

As Martin has said before, people aren't judged on how they respond to success; they're judged by how they respond to adversity. With that in mind, let's suspend judgement, at least for a little while.

Ashley Dunkak is a sophomore in Spanish and journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to sports@spub.

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Nominations are due to the Office of the Provost by February 25, 2011.

More information is available at (http://www.kstate.edu/provost/academic/awards/presundstu res.htm).

# **GETTHATJOB**

**WEEKLY 10** 

# Dress appropriately, speak well and nail your next interview



As graduation is quickly approAs graduation is quickly approaching, interview season is just around the corner. Just mentioning the word "interview" makes many people break into a cold sweat. Well, take a deep breath, my fellow K-Staters. I am here to help you avoid some of the more ghastly interview blunders. Here's what not to do when being interviewed for a job:

#### 1. Vomiting on the interviewer

This is one of those missteps that is extremely difficult to recover from. What could you possibly say to redeem the situation after retching all over your future employer? The best way to avoid this tragic circumstance is to refrain from heavy drinking and/or exposure to the flu virus prior to the interview.

#### 2. A feeble handshake

This is a major interview faux pas. If you aren't comfortable with handshakes or you fear you may have a weak handshake, then practice and ask for feedback from whoever has volunteered their time to help you practice handshakes. Strengthen hand muscles with a stress ball if necessary. A good, firm handshake helps to make a good first impression. Don't break their hand, but don't be wimpy. A nice, firm, confident handshake is the best approach.

#### 3. Wearing sketchy clothing

You'd think people would recognize this is a bad idea, but you'd be surprised by what people will wear to interviews. The person conducting the interview will assume they are seeing you at your very best, so think

about what your "very best" should look like. This is probably not a good time to break out your favorite "I love beer" shirt and a pair of cut-off shorts. Do yourself a favor — wear professional clothing and brush your teeth. Look presentable.

#### 4. Arriving late

This is a simple error, and very easy to avoid. How? Be on time. It is really that simple. Actually, be early. Once again, your future employer knows that you are on your best behavior for your interview — so if you arrive late, they can only assume that you will arrive late to your job

If you have recently lost a major limb to a carnivorous animal, have a family emergency or are suddenly stricken with the plague, and you absolutely must miss your interview make sure you notify your employer before the time of the interview and reschedule if at all possible.

#### 5. Unpreparedness

You can avoid this classic interview blunder with a little Socratic wisdom: Know thyself and know thy future employer. Practice answering common interview questions; do some research; write down a few good questions to ask your future employer; do something to avoid being totally unprepared.

This fatal interview error typically goes hand-in-hand with unpreparedness. Do not lie to your interviewer. Do not exaggerate. Do not bend the truth. Don't fib. Do not perjure yourself in any way. Your untruths will always catch up with you, and getting bit in the butt by lies is never, ever fun. So be a person of integrity.

#### 7. Talking too much and saying too

If you struggle coming up with clear, concise answers to interview questions, I recommend scheduling a mock interview with the



Collegian File Photo

Eric Strom, K-State alumnus, talks with employers about local job opportunities at the 2009 All-University Career Fair. Strom is demonstrating two positive interview techniques — maintaining eye contact and active listening.

Career and Employment Services on campus. The people at CES are absolute pros at helping students prepare for interviews and polishing up resumes — and they are super friendly. Don't be afraid to use your

#### 8. Not listening - of course

Be a good listener. Listening attentively is a sign of respect. Helpful hint: Dancing into the interview rocking out to your iPod is probably not a good idea.

Appearing lethargic and lazy will

not advance your chances of landing a new job. Show some enthusiasm and passion. Employers want employees who are genuine, confident, and truly care about their work. No need to develop an obsession or turn into a crazed workaholic — just avoid indifference. Demonstrate interest and eagerness — employers appreciate people who want to work for them.

#### 10. Lack of gratitude

As you leave an interview, be sure to thank the interviewers for taking the time for an interview and for answering your questions. Expressing gratitude does not necessitate a fruit basket or bouquet of flowers delivered to their door. A simple thank you note will suffice.

Now that you know what mistakes to avoid, you have nothing to fear. You are ready to tackle your next interview with grace and confidence. And as always, don't forget

tion. Unlike normal humans, she actually enjoys interviews. If you have suggestions for a future topic for the Weekly 10 column, e-mail Sara at edge@spub.ksu.edu.

Sara Gudde is a senior in secondary educa-

# Assistant dean: minors might not be worth extra time in school

Sandi Lam

Choosing a major is a stress-ful decision college students are forced to make eventually. Once that is taken care of, yet another decision remains - whether picking up a minor is worth the time and money. Taking extra classes could take a toll on college students, their close-to-empty bank accounts and their student loan debts.

The main drawback is that it takes students a little longer to finish school, maybe another semester," said Larry Satzler, assistant dean of the College of Engineering.

Time is money, and college ment. Whether adding a minor is worth the heavy load of coursework that results from having both a major and minor is up to the individual student to decide.

Up until college, educational decisions were, for the most part, decided for a student. In high school, procedures were standard — go to school, learn and go home. In college, students are presented with newfound freedom and must decide for themselves what is beneficial.

Satzler said pursuing a minor has its benefits, especially for students in highly specialized fields

is a serious test of time manage- ground," Satzler said. "Engineers get a job. can get pretty specific and tied to their major so it gives them a bit more of an ability to relate to other fields."

He said the most common majors within the College of Engineering are business and economics. When asked whether or not pursuing a minor is worth the extra effort, Satzler said, "It may not be worth it if it's going to extend your time in school, but if you take a few extra classes in another field, that's great."

Of course, a minor is only as valuable as potential employers consider it to be — a minor might not be worth the cost of

Tanna Thompson, retail man-

ager at Commerce Bank in Manhattan, said a minor might help, depending on the position the student is applying for. "We may look at an applicant

with coursework in finance or business more seriously than one without it," Thompson said.

She said it is important to take into consideration the demographic in the area in which one is desiring employment.

"Foreign language could be a nice touch in an area where different languages are spoken," Thompson said.

But does having the minor

over those who don't?

"The most important thing to look at is their skill set, how they deal with people, how they fit into the team culture. That determines whether they are the right fit for the position," Thompson said.

Other employers, like Brad Fagan, vice president of Schwab-Eaton, P.A., seemed to echo these takes on getting a minor.

"Showing a minor does not not necessarily help in and of itself. It may help the applicant if they are able to show they have a broader base of experience in

things," Fagan said. He also said the main focus of

"It does broaden their back- classes if it will not help a student ultimately give students an edge the hiring process is work experi-

"Experience over minor. Work experience gives more of a leg-up than just education," Fagan said.

Pursuing a minor seems to positively reinforce a student's skill base, but not necessarily improve their appeal to be employed. When deciding whether studying a minor is the right choice, one should consider both the benefits and shortcomings. Taking the extra classes could allow exposure to a variety of concepts and ideas that would not be found otherwise, but whether it is worth the time and money is up to the individual.

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# CHINNI | Project makes 'data geek' of founder | NATE & KATE | Pair:

#### Continued from page 1

and see what the correlations are between different factors - for example, the overlap between the highestperforming schools and those who graduated from college.

Carlin said while local officials tend to get their understanding of issues from the citizens who live around them in the area they serve, politicians further removed from the people they govern find numbers more useful.

"I think state legislators, they would be much more interested in data that gets right down to geographical areas that very much overlap and for the most part are reflective of the districts they represent," Carlin said.

While Chinni said he was not originally a data geek, he admitted becoming one for the sake of the project. However, he is not content to let the numbers tell the stories. That's why he has chosen one town fitting the description of each of the 12 district types to visit personally at least once each year.

"The data'll be interesting, but it's the people that make the story compelling,"

If you think a national number, or even a red or blue number, gives the whole picture, you are missing the point, Chinni cautioned.

His belief is that people want different things because they live in different environments. Reality is defined by surroundings. Carlin agrees.

"Any way you look at it, I think it's of value, recognizing that people see things through their own eyes more than anything else," said Carlin. "They may follow news, read, whatever, but in the end, whatever they see, read, feel, they see through their own eyes, their own experiences, their own community, their own area."

As people have so many different realities depending on where they are, having opposing ideas on how to accomplish different ends is not a bad thing, Chinni said. It is not necessarily a matter of right or wrong because an idea or solution that could work in one location might not work in another.

"Breaking down the country this way gives you a much more nuanced view, and we need that," Chinni said.

# students have power

#### Continued from page 1

members of the Wildcat community," Spriggs said. "It's important to keep a diverse and open mind, all while keeping in mind that the decisions we make should be for all students and not for one particular

Spriggs and Bormann have both been involved with student government and the Student Alumni Board in the past, and Spriggs said they were excited about the chance to address university wide problems.

"The main reason we decided to come together is that we believe in the ability of students to shape our campus," Spriggs said. "We believe students really have the power to shape how things are now and in the future."

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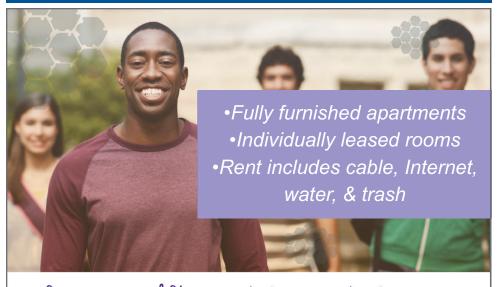
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